

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A lid for a bowl of a food processor for processing a relatively large size or a large volume of foodstuff comprising:

5 a top lid wall;

a feed tube extending from the top lid wall along a feed axis, the feed tube including an inner feed surface defining a feed cavity and a mouth for accessing the feed cavity;

a feed tube lid movably mounted to the mouth of the feed tube; and

10 a food pusher movably mounted on the feed tube lid, the food pusher and feed tube lid covering the mouth of the feed tube when the feed tube lid and food pusher are in a working position, the food pusher being movable relative to the feed tube in first and second directions in the working position, the first direction being generally parallel to the feed axis and the second direction being generally perpendicular to the feed axis.

15 2. The lid of claim 1 wherein the feed tube lid includes a central hole, the food pusher being slideably disposed in the central hole, the central hole guiding movement of the food pusher in the first direction.

3. The lid of claim 1 wherein the feed tube lid is pivotally mounted to the feed tube, the feed tube lid being pivotable between the working position and a loading position, the mouth of the feed tube being exposed in the loading position.

20 4. The lid of claim 3 wherein the feed tube lid is pivotal about at least one pivot pin disposed on the feed tube.

25 5. The lid of claim 3 wherein the feed tube lid includes a collar having an opening and a movable cover disposed over the collar opening, the food pusher being disposed on the cover, the cover being pivotable about a swivel axis relative to the collar, in the working position, the cover is pivotable between a first position where the food pusher is positioned adjacent a center of the feed cavity and a second position where the food pusher is positioned adjacent a compacting side of the feed cavity in the working position.

6. The lid of claim 5 wherein the cover includes a peripheral groove with a first end and a second end and the collar includes a stop, the stop being in contact with the first end when the cover is in the first position and the stop being in contact with the second end when the cover is in the second position.

5 7. The lid of claim 1 wherein the feed tube lid is removable from the feed tube.

8. The lid of claim 1 wherein the feed tube lid includes a collar having an opening and a moveable cover disposed over the collar opening, the cover being pivotally mounted to the collar, the collar and cover being in at least partial facing engagement.

10 9. The lid of claim 8 wherein the cover includes a central hole, the food pusher being slideably disposed in the central hole, the food pusher extending through the central hole and the opening in the collar in the working position.

10. The lid of claim 8 wherein the opening in the collar is offset from the feed axis.

15 11. The lid of claim 8 wherein the cover is pivotable relative to the collar between a first position and a second position, the cover including a central hole that is positioned over the opening when the cover is in the first and second positions and anywhere therebetween.

12. The lid of claim 11 wherein the cover extends at least partially beyond a periphery of the collar in the second position.

13. The lid of claim 1 further comprising:

20 a peripheral rim extending downwardly from the top lid wall, the peripheral rim releasably engageable with the bowl of the food processor.

14. The lid of claim 1 wherein the feed tube lid includes a lip that extends downwardly below the mouth and along a side of the feed tube when the feed tube lid is in the working position.

15. The lid of claim 1 further comprising:

25 a lid release tab mounted to the feed tube lid, the lid release tab securing the feed tube lid in the working position by releasably engaging the feed tube.

16. A lid for a bowl of a food processor for processing a relatively large size or a large volume of foodstuff comprising:

a top lid wall;

5 a feed tube extending from the top lid wall, the feed tube including a continuous inner feed surface that defines a feed cavity; and

a moveable gate positioned within the feed cavity, the moveable gate being moveable within the feed cavity between an open position and a compacting position.

10 17. The lid of claim 16 wherein the feed tube includes a slot having an open first end adjacent a mouth of the feed tube and a closed second end, the slot being at least partially exposed to the feed cavity between the first and second ends; and

a hub being removably positionable within the slot, the hub being secured to the moveable gate.

18. The lid of claim 17 wherein the moveable gate is pivotable within the feed cavity relative to the slot and the hub is pivotable within the slot.

15 19. The lid of claim 18 wherein the hub and moveable gate are biased toward the compacting position.

20. The lid of claim 16 wherein the moveable gate is biased toward the compacting position.

21. The lid of claim 20 further comprising:

20 a torsion spring that biases the movable gate toward the compacting position.

22. The lid of claim 21 wherein the torsion spring is secured at one end to the moveable gate and at a second end to the feed tube.

23. The lid of claim 16 further comprising:

a food pusher being slideable relative to the feed tube in first and second directions, the first direction being generally parallel to a feed axis of the feed tube and the second direction being generally perpendicular to the feed axis, the food pusher being generally cylindrically-shaped.

5 24. The lid of claim 16 wherein a sub-feed cavity is defined by a compacting surface of the moveable gate and at least a portion of the inner feed surface of the feed tube.

25. The lid of claim 24 further comprising:

a food pusher removably positionable in the feed cavity, the food pusher substantially filling the sub-feed cavity when the movable gate is in the compacting position and the food pusher is in a storage position.

10 26. A lid for the bowl of a food processor for processing a relatively large size or a large volume of foodstuff, the lid comprising:

a top lid wall;

a feed tube extending from the top lid wall along a feed axis, the feed tube including an inner feed surface, the inner feed surface defining a feed cavity;

15 a food pusher removably positionable within the feed cavity; and

a feed tube lid pivotally and removably mounted to the feed tube, the feed tube lid and food pusher covering a mouth of the feed tube in a working position.

20 27. The food processor of claim 26 wherein the feed tube lid includes at least one channel and the feed tube includes a pivot pin, the feed tube lid being removably secured to the feed tube through releasable engagement between the channel and pivot pin, the feed tube lid being pivotable relative to the feed tube about the channel.

25 28. The food processor of claim 27 wherein the feed tube lid includes an arm, the channel being located on the arm and a guide pin being secured to the arm, the feed tube further including an arc-shaped groove, the guide pin guiding the pivotal movement of the feed tube lid between the working position and a loading position.

29. The food processor of claim 28 wherein the feed tube lid is removable from the feed tube only from the loading position.

30. The food processor of claim 28 wherein the channel, pivot pin, guide pin and groove non-releasably secure the feed tube lid to the feed tube in the working position and any position
5 between the working and loading positions.

31. The food processor of claim 26 wherein the feed tube lid includes a lip that extends downwardly below the mouth and along a side of the feed tube when the feed tube lid is in the working position.

32. The food processor of claim 26 further comprising:

10 a lid release tab mounted to the feed tube lid, the lid release tab securing the feed tube lid in the working position by releasably engaging the feed tube.